

## ABSTRACT

A mobile communication system provides a phone number maintaining service. In the system, a first mobile switching center (MSC) receives a call  
5 request signal with calling terminal information and called terminal information,  
detects an initial service provider of a called terminal from the called terminal  
information, and transmits the call request signal to a communication network  
formed by the detected initial service provider of the called terminal. A second  
MSC detects a changed service provider of the called terminal based on the  
10 called terminal information included in the call request signal transmitted from  
the first MSC, and transmits the call request signal to a communication network  
formed by the detected service provider. A third MSC transmits the call request  
signal received from the second MSC to the called terminal so that the called  
terminal can communicate with the calling terminal over a communication  
15 network formed by the changed service provider.